

**MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES LICENSING ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 281 of 2016**

**PART 4. LICENSING**

**333.27401 Licensure; application; background investigation; consent to inspections, examinations, searches, and seizures; disclosure of confidential records; interest in other state operating license; fee; additional costs; notification to municipality.**

Sec. 401. (1) Beginning 360 days after the effective date of this act, a person may apply to the board for state operating licenses in the categories of class A, B, or C grower; processor; provisioning center; secure transporter; and safety compliance facility as provided in this act. The application shall be made under oath on a form provided by the board and shall contain information as prescribed by the board, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) The name, business address, business telephone number, social security number, and, if applicable, federal tax identification number of the applicant.

(b) The identity of every person having any ownership interest in the applicant with respect to which the license is sought. If the disclosed entity is a trust, the application shall disclose the names and addresses of the beneficiaries; if a corporation, the names and addresses of all shareholders, officers, and directors; if a partnership or limited liability partnership, the names and addresses of all partners; if a limited partnership or limited liability limited partnership, the names of all partners, both general and limited; or if a limited liability company, the names and addresses of all members and managers.

(c) An identification of any business that is directly or indirectly involved in the growing, processing, testing, transporting, or sale of marihuana, including, if applicable, the state of incorporation or registration, in which an applicant or, if the applicant is an individual, the applicant's spouse, parent, or child has any equity interest. If an applicant is a corporation, partnership, or other business entity, the applicant shall identify any other corporation, partnership, or other business entity that is directly or indirectly involved in the growing, processing, testing, transporting, or sale of marihuana in which it has any equity interest, including, if applicable, the state of incorporation or registration. An applicant may comply with this subdivision by filing a copy of the applicant's registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission if the registration contains the information required by this subdivision.

(d) Whether an applicant has been indicted for, charged with, arrested for, or convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, forfeited bail concerning any criminal offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, either felony or controlled-substance-related misdemeanor, not including traffic violations, regardless of whether the offense has been reversed on appeal or otherwise, including the date, the name and location of the court, arresting agency, and prosecuting agency, the case caption, the docket number, the offense, the disposition, and the location and length of incarceration.

(e) Whether an applicant has ever applied for or has been granted any commercial license or certificate issued by a licensing authority in Michigan or any other jurisdiction that has been denied, restricted, suspended, revoked, or not renewed and a statement describing the facts and circumstances concerning the application, denial, restriction, suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal, including the licensing authority, the date each action was taken, and the reason for each action.

(f) Whether an applicant has filed, or been served with, a complaint or other notice filed with any public body, regarding the delinquency in the payment of, or a dispute over the filings concerning the payment of, any tax required under federal, state, or local law, including the amount, type of tax, taxing agency, and time periods involved.

(g) A statement listing the names and titles of all public officials or officers of any unit of government, and the spouses, parents, and children of those public officials or officers, who, directly or indirectly, own any financial interest in, have any beneficial interest in, are the creditors of or hold any debt instrument issued by, or hold or have any interest in any contractual or service relationship with an applicant. As used in this subdivision, public official or officer does not include a person who would have to be listed solely because of his or her state or federal military service.

(h) A description of the type of marihuana facility; anticipated or actual number of employees; and projected or actual gross receipts.

(i) Financial information in the manner and form prescribed by the board.

(j) A paper copy or electronic posting website reference for the ordinance or zoning restriction that the municipality adopted to authorize or restrict operation of 1 or more marihuana facilities in the municipality.

(k) A copy of the notice informing the municipality by registered mail that the applicant has applied for a license under this act. The applicant shall also certify that it has delivered the notice to the municipality or

will do so by 10 days after the date the applicant submits the application for a license to the board.

(1) Any other information the department requires by rule.

(2) The board shall use information provided on the application as a basis to conduct a thorough background investigation on the applicant. A false application is cause for the board to deny a license. The board shall not consider an incomplete application but shall, within a reasonable time, return the application to the applicant with notification of the deficiency and instructions for submitting a corrected application. Information the board obtains from the background investigation is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(3) An applicant must provide written consent to the inspections, examinations, searches, and seizures provided for in section 303(1)(c)(i) to (iv) and to disclosure to the board and its agents of otherwise confidential records, including tax records held by any federal, state, or local agency, or credit bureau or financial institution, while applying for or holding a license. Information the board receives under this subsection is exempt from disclosure under the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(4) An applicant must certify that the applicant does not have an interest in any other state operating license that is prohibited under this act.

(5) A nonrefundable application fee must be paid at the time of filing to defray the costs associated with the background investigation conducted by the board. The department in consultation with the board shall set the amount of the application fee for each category and class of license by rule. If the costs of the investigation and processing the application exceed the application fee, the applicant shall pay the additional amount to the board. All information, records, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, or other data supplied to or used by the board in the course of its review or investigation of an application for a license under this act shall be disclosed only in accordance with this act. The information, records, interviews, reports, statements, memoranda, or other data are not admissible as evidence or discoverable in any action of any kind in any court or before any tribunal, board, agency, or person, except for any action considered necessary by the board.

(6) By 10 days after the date the applicant submits an application to the board, the applicant shall notify the municipality by registered mail that it has applied for a license under this act.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

**333.27402 License; issuance; ineligibility; circumstances; other considerations; photograph and fingerprints; review of application; informing applicant of decision; issuance; duration; renewal; notice; expiration; consent to inspections; examinations, searches, and seizures; information required to be provided by applicant.**

Sec. 402. (1) The board shall issue a license to an applicant who submits a complete application and pays both the nonrefundable application fee required under section 401(5) and the regulatory assessment established by the board for the first year of operation, if the board determines that the applicant is qualified to receive a license under this act.

(2) An applicant is ineligible to receive a license if any of the following circumstances exist:

(a) The applicant has been convicted of or released from incarceration for a felony under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United States within the past 10 years or has been convicted of a controlled substance-related felony within the past 10 years.

(b) Within the past 5 years the applicant has been convicted of a misdemeanor involving a controlled substance, theft, dishonesty, or fraud in any state or been found responsible for violating a local ordinance in any state involving a controlled substance, dishonesty, theft, or fraud that substantially corresponds to a misdemeanor in that state.

(c) The applicant has knowingly submitted an application for a license under this act that contains false information.

(d) The applicant is a member of the board.

(e) The applicant fails to demonstrate the applicant's ability to maintain adequate premises liability and casualty insurance for its proposed marihuana facility.

(f) The applicant holds an elective office of a governmental unit of this state, another state, or the federal government; is a member of or employed by a regulatory body of a governmental unit in this state, another state, or the federal government; or is employed by a governmental unit of this state. This subdivision does

not apply to an elected officer of or employee of a federally recognized Indian tribe or to an elected precinct delegate.

(g) The applicant, if an individual, has been a resident of this state for less than a continuous 2-year period immediately preceding the date of filing the application. The requirements in this subdivision do not apply after June 30, 2018.

(h) The board determines that the applicant is not in compliance with section 205(1).

(i) The applicant fails to meet other criteria established by rule.

(3) In determining whether to grant a license to an applicant, the board may also consider all of the following:

(a) The integrity, moral character, and reputation; personal and business probity; financial ability and experience; and responsibility or means to operate or maintain a marihuana facility of the applicant and of any other person that either:

(i) Controls, directly or indirectly, the applicant.

(ii) Is controlled, directly or indirectly, by the applicant or by a person who controls, directly or indirectly, the applicant.

(b) The financial ability of the applicant to purchase and maintain adequate liability and casualty insurance.

(c) The sources and total amount of the applicant's capitalization to operate and maintain the proposed marihuana facility.

(d) Whether the applicant has been indicted for, charged with, arrested for, or convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, forfeited bail concerning, or had expunged any relevant criminal offense under the laws of any jurisdiction, either felony or misdemeanor, not including traffic violations, regardless of whether the offense has been expunged, pardoned, or reversed on appeal or otherwise.

(e) Whether the applicant has filed, or had filed against it, a proceeding for bankruptcy within the past 7 years.

(f) Whether the applicant has been served with a complaint or other notice filed with any public body regarding payment of any tax required under federal, state, or local law that has been delinquent for 1 or more years.

(g) Whether the applicant has a history of noncompliance with any regulatory requirements in this state or any other jurisdiction.

(h) Whether at the time of application the applicant is a defendant in litigation involving its business practices.

(i) Whether the applicant meets other standards in rules applicable to the license category.

(4) Each applicant shall submit with its application, on forms provided by the board, a passport quality photograph and 1 set of fingerprints for each person having any ownership interest in the marihuana facility and each person who is an officer, director, or managerial employee of the applicant. The department may designate an entity or agent to collect the fingerprints, and the applicant is responsible for the cost associated with the fingerprint collection.

(5) The board shall review all applications for licenses and shall inform each applicant of the board's decision.

(6) A license shall be issued for a 1-year period and is renewable annually. Except as otherwise provided in this act, the board shall renew a license if all of the following requirements are met:

(a) The licensee applies to the board on a renewal form provided by the board that requires information prescribed in rules.

(b) The application is received by the board on or before the expiration date of the current license.

(c) The licensee pays the regulatory assessment under section 603.

(d) The licensee meets the requirements of this act and any other renewal requirements set forth in rules.

(7) The department shall notify the licensee by mail or electronic mail at the last known address on file with the board advising of the time, procedure, and regulatory assessment under section 603. The failure of the licensee to receive notice under this subsection does not relieve the licensee of the responsibility for renewing the license.

(8) If a license renewal application is not submitted by the license expiration date, the license may be renewed within 60 days after its expiration date upon application, payment of the regulatory assessment under section 603, and satisfaction of any renewal requirement and late fee set forth in rules. The licensee may continue to operate during the 60 days after the license expiration date if the license is renewed by the end of the 60-day period.

(9) License expiration does not terminate the board's authority to impose sanctions on a licensee whose license has expired.

(10) In its decision on an application for renewal, the board shall consider any specific written input it

receives from an individual or entity within the local unit of government in which the applicant for renewal is located.

(11) A licensee must consent in writing to inspections, examinations, searches, and seizures that are permitted under this act and must provide a handwriting exemplar, fingerprints, photographs, and information as authorized in this act or by rules.

(12) An applicant or licensee has a continuing duty to provide information requested by the board and to cooperate in any investigation, inquiry, or hearing conducted by the board.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27403 Application deficiency; correction.**

Sec. 403. If the board identifies a deficiency in an application, the board shall provide the applicant with a reasonable period of time to correct the deficiency.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27404 True party of interest.**

Sec. 404. (1) The board shall issue a license only in the name of the true party of interest.

(2) For the following true parties of interest, information concerning the indicated individuals must be included in the disclosures required of an applicant or licensee:

(a) For an individual or sole proprietorship: the proprietor and spouse.

(b) For a partnership and limited liability partnership: all partners and their spouses. For a limited partnership and limited liability limited partnership: all general and limited partners and their spouses. For a limited liability company: all members, managers, and their spouses.

(c) For a privately held corporation: all corporate officers or persons with equivalent titles and their spouses and all stockholders and their spouses.

(d) For a publicly held corporation: all corporate officers or persons with equivalent titles and their spouses.

(e) For a multilevel ownership enterprise: any entity or person that receives or has the right to receive a percentage of the gross or net profit from the enterprise during any full or partial calendar or fiscal year.

(f) For a nonprofit corporation: all individuals and entities with membership or shareholder rights in accordance with the articles of incorporation or the bylaws and their spouses.

(3) For purposes of this section, "true party of interest" does not mean:

(a) A person or entity receiving reasonable payment for rent on a fixed basis under a bona fide lease or rental obligation, unless the lessor or property manager exercises control over or participates in the management of the business.

(b) A person who receives a bonus as an employee if the employee is on a fixed wage or salary and the bonus is not more than 25% of the employee's prebonus annual compensation or if the bonus is based on a written incentive/bonus program that is not out of the ordinary for the services rendered.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27405 Background check.**

Sec. 405. Subject to the laws of this state, before hiring a prospective employee, the holder of a license shall conduct a background check of the prospective employee. If the background check indicates a pending charge or conviction within the past 10 years for a controlled substance-related felony, a licensee shall not hire the prospective employee without written permission of the board.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27406 Transfer, sale, or purchase of license.**

Sec. 406. Each license is exclusive to the licensee, and a licensee or any other person must apply for and receive the board's approval before a license is transferred, sold, or purchased. The attempted transfer, sale, or other conveyance of an interest of more than 1% in a license without prior board approval is grounds for suspension or revocation of the license or for other sanction considered appropriate by the board.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27407 Denial, suspension, revocation, or restriction of license.**

Sec. 407. (1) If an applicant or licensee fails to comply with this act or rules, if a licensee fails to comply with the marihuana tracking act, if a licensee no longer meets the eligibility requirements for a license under this act, or if an applicant or licensee fails to provide information the board requests to assist in any investigation, inquiry, or board hearing, the board may deny, suspend, revoke, or restrict a license. The board may suspend, revoke, or restrict a license and require the removal of a licensee or an employee of a licensee for a violation of this act, rules, the marihuana tracking act, or any ordinance adopted under section 205. The board may impose civil fines of up to \$5,000.00 against an individual and up to \$10,000.00 or an amount equal to the daily gross receipts, whichever is greater, against a licensee for each violation of this act, rules, or an order of the board. Assessment of a civil fine under this subsection is not a bar to the investigation, arrest, charging, or prosecution of an individual for any other violation of this act and is not grounds to suppress evidence in any criminal prosecution that arises under this act or any other law of this state.

(2) The board shall comply with the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328, when denying, revoking, suspending, or restricting a license or imposing a fine. The board may suspend a license without notice or hearing upon a determination that the safety or health of patrons or employees is jeopardized by continuing a marihuana facility's operation. If the board suspends a license under this subsection without notice or hearing, a prompt postsuspension hearing must be held to determine if the suspension should remain in effect. The suspension may remain in effect until the board determines that the cause for suspension has been abated. The board may revoke the license or approve a transfer or sale of the license upon a determination that the licensee has not made satisfactory progress toward abating the hazard.

(3) After denying an application for a license, the board shall, upon request, provide a public investigative hearing at which the applicant is given the opportunity to present testimony and evidence to establish its suitability for a license. Other testimony and evidence may be presented at the hearing, but the board's decision must be based on the whole record before the board and is not limited to testimony and evidence submitted at the public investigative hearing.

(4) Except for license applicants who may be granted a hearing at the discretion of the board under subsection (3), any party aggrieved by an action of the board suspending, revoking, restricting, or refusing to renew a license, or imposing a fine, shall be given a hearing before the board upon request. A request for a hearing must be made to the board in writing within 21 days after service of notice of the action of the board. Notice of the action of the board must be served either by personal delivery or by certified mail, postage prepaid, to the aggrieved party. Notice served by certified mail is considered complete on the business day following the date of the mailing.

(5) The board may conduct investigative and contested case hearings; issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses; issue subpoenas duces tecum for the production of books, ledgers, records, memoranda, electronically retrievable data, and other pertinent documents; and administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses as appropriate to exercise and discharge the powers and duties of the board under this act. The executive director or his or her designee may issue subpoenas and administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27408 Proof of financial responsibility.**

Sec. 408. (1) Before the board grants or renews any license under this act, the licensee or applicant shall file with the department proof of financial responsibility for liability for bodily injury to lawful users resulting



from the manufacture, distribution, transportation, or sale of adulterated marihuana or adulterated marihuana-infused product in an amount not less than \$100,000.00. The proof of financial responsibility may be in the form of cash, unencumbered securities, a liability insurance policy, or a constant value bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in this state. As used in this section:

(a) "Adulterated marihuana" means a product sold as marihuana that contains any unintended substance or chemical or biological matter other than marihuana that causes adverse reaction after ingestion or consumption.

(b) "Bodily injury" does not include expected or intended effect or long-term adverse effect of smoking, ingestion, or consumption of marihuana or marihuana-infused product.

(2) An insured licensee shall not cancel liability insurance required under this section unless the licensee complies with both of the following:

(a) Gives 30 days' prior written notice to the department.

(b) Procures new proof of financial responsibility required under this section and delivers that proof to the department within 30 days after giving the department the notice under subdivision (a).

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."

### **333.27409 State operating license as revocable privilege.**

Sec. 409. A state operating license is a revocable privilege granted by this state and is not a property right. Granting a license does not create or vest any right, title, franchise, or other property interest. Each license is exclusive to the licensee, and a licensee or any other person must apply for and receive the board's and municipality's approval before a license is transferred, sold, or purchased. A licensee or any other person shall not lease, pledge, or borrow or loan money against a license. The attempted transfer, sale, or other conveyance of an interest in a license without prior board approval is grounds for suspension or revocation of the license or for other sanction considered appropriate by the board.

**History:** 2016, Act 281, Eff. Dec. 20, 2016.

**Compiler's note:** Enacting section 2 of Act 281 of 2016 provides:

"Enacting section 2. The legislature finds that the necessity for access to safe sources of marihuana for medical use and the immediate need for growers, processors, secure transporters, provisioning centers, and safety compliance facilities to operate under clear requirements establish the need to promulgate emergency rules to preserve the public health, safety, or welfare."